

PADRONE SYSTEM.

All Efforts to Suppress it Have Proved Unavailing

Three Distinct Kinds of Slavery—All Are Bad, But Hiring of Children for Begging Purposes is the Worst

Some of our legislators seem to be of the opinion that the restriction of immigration would cure every evil which has been brought to this country by ignorant foreigners. Of course, the line of argument presented by them has many powerful points, most of them based on pure patriotism and a commendable desire to benefit the people—not only the native-born but the foreigners who are already here as well. And there is an element—powerful in the politics of our great cities—which



SOME STREET TYPES.

denounces every plan having in view the regulation of immigration as fanatical, narrow-minded and puritanical. The great majority of American citizens has thus far occupied a middle ground, favorable to legitimate restriction and inimical to the absolute closing our ports to respectable workingmen from abroad. The belief that every man who desires to become an American citizen should have a common-school education and a fair idea of the institutions of this country has of late found many adherents among those who formerly advocated the wide-open theory; and the development into national scandals of various tribal vices introduced by the benighted immigrants from southern Europe leads well-meaning citizens of every creed and nationality to hope that congress will speedily pass laws calculated to place that value upon American citizenship which now seems to exist only in the mind of the effusive Fourth of July orator.

While the restriction of immigration would not prove a panacea for all public evils, it would certainly, in the course of time, wipe out many of the abuses which have grown up in all of our large cities and which, while not openly sanctioned by the authorities, are permitted to exist because the men who profit by them happen to have a strong political "pull"—the latter itself being based upon the very evil whose suppression has been demanded time and again by the people.

Reference is here made to the padrone system, which flourishes like a green bay tree in the Italian quarters of Chicago. There is not an immigrant from Italy who can manage to escape paying tribute to the leeches of his own nationality; not a single one who can get employment except through the padrone into whose hands he may happen to fall. When a corporation wishes to engage Italian laborers its managers have to consult a padrone, who agrees to do the work for a certain price. The padrone then hires the men on his own account and pays them whatever he pleases. They do all the work and he pockets all the profits. This, however, is not the worst phase of the matter. An Italian laborer usually manages to save money out of his wages, no matter how pitifully small they may be. The



THE FRUITS OF THEIR LABOR.

menace to American institutions lies in the fact that the padrone naturalizes his creatures as soon as the law allows—and very often before—and then uses them for voting purposes. He throws his influence with the party whose bosses offer the greatest inducements, and all deals for the vote of the Italian labor colonies are made with him. The "spoils" go to him absolutely, and as he is usually successful in delivering his goods at the polls, he sometimes evolves into a ward boss himself and helps to still further degrade our already corrupt municipal politics.

The representatives of the Italian government in Chicago have labored very diligently to suppress the padrone system, and in this effort have had the hearty cooperation of the hundred or more eminently respectable Italian merchants and professional men who make their home there, but so far their work, ardent though it has been, has produced no satisfactory results. The padrone system is the most secret

in the world. He will, in no circumstances, betray his own secrets or those of his friends and associates. When interrogated by an official he will profess ignorance of the English language, and when confronted by an interpreter he simply becomes dumb as the proverbial oyster. To this trait the padrone owes his safety; and also perhaps to threats that open expression would lead to a loss of work.

From a political viewpoint the labor padrone certainly is the most dangerous specimen of his kind; but from a purely humanitarian point of view he is an angel when compared with the cruel taskmaster who hires children, anywhere from four to fourteen years of age, and sends them out on the streets to play harmonicas, violins and mandolins, or to sell newspapers, gum or flowers, or to beg and steal.

"The slave driver of ante-bellum days was a highly respectable member of society when brought in comparison with these fellows who grow rich at the expense of the health and morals of thousands of little children," said a lady engaged in mission work in the Italian quarter of Chicago's great West side. The padrone who derives his income from child slaves is usually the lowest type of man. He secures his chattels from poor Italians with large families, and pays a rental varying from 50 cents to one dollar per week for their use; but in exceptional cases buys them outright for a term of years. The children are taught to scrape the violin, if musically inclined, to strum the mandolin, to dance and to sing the most popular songs of the day. If too dull for this line of work they are given a bundle of newspapers which they must sell late at night, especially after the close of the down-town theaters. Girls are usually chosen for the latter work, because the poor things, clad in rags and with artificial tears in their eyes, are more apt to appeal to the sympathies of the happy playgoers than dirty boys.

A police officer who is familiar with every feature of the child padrone system is authority for the statement that each little slave must return to the master with 50 cents as a day's earnings. In case of failure the culprit receives a merciless beating and is sent to his bed on the floor without supper. These who turn in more than the required half dollar receive an extra fine supper, consisting of macaroni and cheese, but the good work of one day does not



AN AFTER-THEATER SCENE.

receive credit the next night. Each day stands by itself and has its own rewards or lashings. Although most of the children rapidly learn to assume a well-begone expression at all times, very often their distress is sincere, especially late at night, when, tired and sleepy, they long for their miserable houses, but are too frightened to meet the ugly looks and the stinging whip of their tyrant. Many noble women have attempted to rescue these waifs from their sad fate, but have been baffled by the peculiar racial secretiveness of which mention has been made. The children, probably awed by threats of terrible punishment, cannot be induced to testify against their oppressors, and prefer their captivity to the unknown dangers whose existence has been impressed on their undeveloped minds as facts.

Sodifficult is it to convict the padrones that the police had to labor in season and out of season to secure the indictment of a brute who had put out the eyes of three children for the purpose of making them more successful beggars. When the case finally came to trial witnesses could not be secured for love or money, and the judge sentenced the fellow to serve one year in the penitentiary, more on general principles than on the testimony submitted. Yet there was not a particle of doubt about the wretch's guilt. His escape was due altogether to the taciturnity or fear of his victims and countrymen. The moral influence exerted by the padrones persons brought up in a free country can never learn to understand. When children grow too old to be sent out on begging expeditions, they are turned adrift. The boys usually take up shoeblacking, the girls—the less said about them the better. Many of these emancipated slaves, when old enough, become padrones themselves; and exceedingly wicked ones, too, if the testimony of police authorities is to be believed.

The least harmful padrones are those possessing a number of street pianos and hand organs. Their operators are hired on commission. They are, as a class, harmless, peaceable and thrifty, and soon emancipate themselves.

It cannot be disputed that there is no remedy for the padrone system, except restriction of immigration. Intelligent Italians believe this quite as much as other students of the Italian question in America. A sensible law, equitable in every provision, which would keep out the ignorant of all nations, is absolutely needed to snipe not only the padrones but to restore dignity to citizenship and to purify municipal government.

G. W. WEIPRIET.

The South Side

Tempe, Ariz., Feb. 17.—(Special Correspondence of The Republican.)—Woolf Sachs and wife, Mrs. Charles Mullen, A. J. Chandler, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Austin went to Phoenix today. Perry Wildman left for Yuma last night.

Col. W. J. Cotton and Jack Gibson made this place a business trip this morning.

Mrs. Robert Effe, who has been visiting with Mrs. Perry Wildman for some time, returns tonight to her home in California.

J. L. Powell went up to Mesa today. Jack Stewart will ship three cars of wheat to Safford, Graham county, from the Sacaton switch tomorrow night.

A. J. Peters has bought 600 tons of hay during the last few days and now has two bales running.

Charles Whitlow and Charles Arlivo passed through here yesterday on their way to their ranches near Pinal.

Dudley I. Craig of the Iron & Craig cattle ranch near Pinal, is in town today.

W. T. Cummings in a recent sharp scrape he had with a member of the street committee lost his very promising chin whiskers and flowing locks.

A car of lumber and a car of wheat came up from Phoenix last night, the former for the Blinn people, and the latter for the Hayden mill. A car of cattle will be shipped to But-her Pusch from here to Tucson tonight.

Ramon Meza was acquitted today by Justice Meyers. There was not sufficient evidence to establish a case of horse stealing. Ramon will pay, however, for the property.

Will Campbell yesterday killed, out on the edge of the Maricopa mountain, one of the largest rattlesnakes ever seen in this country. The stuffed skin of the reptile is now on exhibition in the show window of Laird & Dines' drug store.

Dr. Charles H. Jones received a few friends last evening who congratulated him on his birthday.

Dan Goodin and wife and his father, Joseph Goodin, were over from Phoenix today. So also was Col. Frakes. Hon. C. R. Hakes of Mesa with his family took a drive to Phoenix yesterday.

Sylvester Andrado, who has been in the valley some time, returned home today.

Dr. Tuttle made Mesa a professional visit today.

John Hicks is able to wear a shoe on his broken foot now.

An enterprising young business man of Tempe has this "ad" in the south side business directory. There is something peculiar or rather ambiguous about this ad. He requests the normal students to put a nickel in his music box, get some sweet music and candy in return. The young lady students of the normal like sweet music and candy as well or better than the young gentlemen students. Of course the young gentlemen are allowed. Now this enterprising young business man is unmarried and his heart is yearning. He thinks that if he can get the young ladies to come in to his place of business, some fair sweet will become infatuated with his exquisite mustache and consent to life's companionships to get possession of it.

Curtis Powell, proprietor of the Williams house, and A. F. Barker, a general merchant of Florence, are in town today on business. After making Phoenix a visit they will return home tomorrow. Mr. Barker reports the grain about Florence to be in fine condition. A little larger acreage is in this year than was in last.

In consequence of losing the wager that Mrs. F. M. Schureman could not win in the foot race which was participated in by a few of the young ladies a week or so ago, J. Oscar Neil tendered an oyster supper at Borrowdale's last night to the following people: Misses Callie Mills, Viola Rosenberg, Mary Goodwin, Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Schureman, C. S. Stewart, William Goodwin, Tom Goodwin and James McNaughton, Jr.

Will and Burt Campbell have struck some very fair copper ore in their mine opposite Kyrene. They are down seventy-five feet and have done considerable cross-cutting.

Robert Richards today carried Uncle Sam's mail on his shoulders two miles and a half. While at E. G. Frankenburg's he took the bride off his horse to let him drink out of the ditch. While drinking, the horse kept his eye on Mr. Bob and when he caught that young gentleman indulging in one of his famous smiles he "lit out." A few people went without their mail, and Robert, finding his horse and cart at the creamery where it had been stopped, put the bride on, got into the cart and drove into town wearing a smile that was simply wonderful.

Rev. Mr. Hedgpath, a superannuate of the M. E. church, yesterday made the normal a long visit. A class in geometry was examined yesterday. Superintendent of Public Instruction A. P. Shewman inspected the normal proper and the practice department today. J. C. Goodwin was a pleasant caller, also, today. The tennis court of the faculty tennis club is now finished. A challenge is likely to drop anywhere among other schools. The garden at the normal is ready for seeds and plants, some of which are now in the ground. As the plant life develops, the little students in the practice department will develop their thoughts and observation by watching the growth.

THE HOUSE THAT GANT BUILT.

Chapter II.

"A thing begun is half done." The house was now to rise as a monument of Mr. Gant's enterprise. It was not his intention to build a two-story house, but on the contrary he thought to build a one-story house, leaving the gables open for a thorough circulation of air. His idea was to secure the greatest coolness possible. Upon the convincing figures of Justice Meyers, which showed that it would cost but little more, he decided to build it two stories, close the gables and leave the second story to be finished on the inside, at the option of certain future occupants.

This decided, everything went off smoothly, the house rapidly assumed

shape, the people of the neighborhood watching it closely and making it the subject of conversation at the fireside during the long winter evenings, and the people on the ranch enjoying a continuous social during the house raising.

FREE TO MILLIONS.

A Valuable Book Sent Free for the Asking.

Medical books are not always interesting reading, especially to people enjoying good health, but as a matter of fact scarcely one person in ten is perfectly healthy, and even with such, sooner or later sickness must come.

It is also a well established truth that nine-tenths of all diseases originate with a breaking down of the digestion, a weak stomach weakens and impoverishes the system, making it easy for disease to gain a foothold.

Nobody need fear consumption, kidney disease, liver trouble or a weak heart and nervous system as long as the digestion is good and the stomach able to assimilate plenty of wholesome food.

Stomach weakness shows itself in a score of ways and this little book describes the symptoms and causes and points the way to a cure so simple that any one can understand and apply.

Thousands have some form of stomach trouble and do not know it. They ascribe the headache, the languor, nervousness, palpitation, constipation and similar symptoms to some other cause than the true one. Get your digestion on the right track and the heart trouble, lung trouble, liver disease or nervous debility will rapidly disappear.

This little book treats entirely on the cause and removal of indigestion and its accompanying annoyances.

It describes the symptoms of Acid Dyspepsia, Nervous Dyspepsia, Slow Dyspepsia, Amylaceous Dyspepsia, Catarrh of Stomach and all affections of the digestive organs in plain language easily understood and the cause removed.

It gives valuable suggestions as to diet, and contains a table giving length of time required to digest various articles of food, something every person with weak digestion should know.

No price is asked, but simply send your name and address plainly written on postal card to the P. A. Stuart Co., Marshall, Mich., requesting a little book on Stomach Diseases and it will be sent promptly by return mail.

CALL FOR A MASS MEETING.

The convention of miners recently held in this city appointed the undersigned a committee to arrange for the selection of six delegates to represent Maricopa county in the miners' delegate convention to be held in the city of Phoenix on Tuesday, the first day of March next. The committee has deemed it advisable to call a Maricopa county miners' convention for the purpose of effecting a permanent county organization of the miners and those interested in mines residing in Maricopa county. Also for the purpose of selecting six delegates to represent Maricopa county in the territorial miners' convention to be held upon the first day of March in the city of Phoenix.

Therefore, all miners and mining men, as well as those financially interested in mines, are respectfully requested to convene in the city of Phoenix on Saturday, the 19th day of February, 1898, for the purpose of organization, and also for the purpose of selecting six delegates to represent Maricopa county in the coming territorial miners' delegate convention to be held in Phoenix on March 19.

J. M. FORD,
P. P. PARKER,
T. E. FARISH,
Committee.

WE CAN SAVE YOU TIME

And time is money. The Union Pacific makes the quickest time to nearly all points east, also to all principal points west. Geo. A. General agent 341 Seventeenth street, Denver.

TO MESA AND TEMPE.

On and after July 1 my fares will remain the same as heretofore, but after having knocked out the railroad the will not be advanced.

THROUGH CAR SERVICE VIA SANTA FE ROUTE ASH FORK.

For the accommodation of our patrons we have secured through sleeping car space in Standard and Tourist Pullman cars passing Ash Fork on following days, destined to points named:

EASTBOUND—Leave Ash Fork at 8:05 a. m., Chicago and Kansas City, daily. Standard and Tourist; St. Louis, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Thursday (via Kansas City & Wabash R. R.) Tourist; Sunday (via Kansas City and C. M. & St. P.) Tourist; Wednesday (via Kansas City and C. G. W.) Tourist; Boston, Thursday (via Chicago and Montreal) Tourist.

WESTBOUND—Leave Ash Fork at 12:35 p. m., Los Angeles, daily, standard and Tourist; San Francisco, daily, Standard and Tourist.

S. F. P. & P. Ry. train No. 2, leaving at 10 p. m. makes close connection at Ash Fork with cars mentioned above.

Tourists will appreciate the certainty of securing Pullman berths.

Buy your through sleeping car tickets when purchasing railroad tickets. For further information call on or write, E. W. Gillett, General Agent, S. F. P. & P. Ry., No. 44 West Washington street, Phoenix, A. T.

MEXICAN CENTRAL RAILWAY.

From the sea to the clouds. Passing modern cities and ancient monuments Standard gauge in everything man, agent, ideas and treatment of patrons. The only line in the republic running Pullman palace buffet sleeping cars between the capital and points in the United States. Cheap rates and prompt service. For full particulars call on or address J. F. Donohoe, Commercial agent, El Paso, Texas.

BLACK CANYON DAILY STAGE to Chaparral, Big Bug, Onyx Mines, Richbar, Squaw Creek Mines, Phoenix. Office at Gregory & Smith's, Prescott. Hocker Bros., Props.

South Side Business Directory

Alfred J. Peters

Wholesale dealer in

WHEAT, BARLEY, ALFALFA AND GRAIN HAY AND ALL KINDS OF CEREALS.

Special prices on large contracts. Correspondence solicited.

TEMPE.

OFFICE CAFE

WHITE COOKS.

G. F. RICHARDS, Prop.

Was here before competitors came.

TINSMITH.

J. W. McLEAN.

HOTEL HAYDEN.

Absolute y the

Best Meals, Largest and Most Comfortable ROOMS in Tempe.

Once a Patron, Always a Patron.

COTTAGE

LUNCH AND OYSTER PARLOR.

Leading Restaurant in Tempe.

The cattle dealers' and drummers' headquarters. Excellent wines, whiskies, beers and cigars at the Cottage Bar Room.

HENRY G. FRISCH, Manager.

Mesa, Tempe and Phoenix Stage Line.

SADDLES AND HARNESS, ANDRE & MERTZ.

BICYCLE REPAIRS.

MILTON MEYERS.

J. KNIGHT,

GENERAL MERCHANDISE. Junction of E 9th and Canal streets.

I. G. HANNA,

BLACKSMITH.

JACK HARRIS,

Soft Hardware.

TEMPE HOUSE!

Good Beds. All kinds of drinks at the bar. Traveling Men's and Stockmen's stopping place.

DINING ROOM. Best of everything to order.

AVENUE STABLE.

Everything pertaining to LIVERY, first class at lowest rates. Feed, sale and board business solicited.

G. R. FINCH, Prop.

LAIRD & DINES Druggists.

ROOT DRUG STORE.

JOHN HODNETT.

Hardware, Linenware, Stoves and Pumps. Furniture and Undertaking a specialty.

Prof. REAN WIGGNER'S RETREAT

EAST TEMPE.

Finest Wines, Liquors and Cigars. Good music every evening.

T. NICHOLAS NEW MEAT MARKET

Choice, tender and healthy meats.

Old Town and New Town.

MESA.

W. H. STANTON PAINTER AND DECORATOR of INTERIOR.

ALHAMBRA HOTEL.

MESA.

Newly furnished throughout, and under new management. Best rooms in the city.

Dan Mahoney, Prop

TEMPE BARBER SHOP

R. O. GREEVES, Proprietor.

NORMAL STUDENTS!

Put a nickel in my music box and writ for results

Headquarters for Grocery Supplies for light housekeeping.

W. M. GOODWIN.

GEO. H. WALSH

Painter, Grainer and Decorator of Interior. Paper hanging a specialty.

TEMPE - - - - - MESA

YOSEMITE AND RETURN.

Excursion tickets from Phoenix to Yosemite and return, and also from Phoenix to Wawona and to Mariposa Grove of big trees in the Yosemite valley, have been placed on sale at the Maricopa & Phoenix office, 22 Center street. These tickets will be good to return, including November 30. Persons desiring to take advantage of a visit to this valley should make application for rates and other information at the above named office.

The M. & P. has adopted the system of commutation tickets for school children wishing to attend school at Phoenix or Tempe, and has arranged to sell ten ride tickets. For further information call at their office, No. 20 North Center street.

SANTA FE PACIFIC SERVICE.

Trains on the Santa Fe Pacific are now running as usual, the transfers being made at tunnel No. 20. The order, sending passenger trains via Phoenix and Deming, has been canceled and only freight will be carried that way. The transfer at the tunnel includes beside passengers, baggage and express matter.

TERRITORIAL ADMINISTRATION RECEPTION.

For the above, to be given at Phoenix on the anniversary of Washington's birthday, the S. F. P. & P. will sell round trip tickets from points on their line to Phoenix at the rate of one fare. Tickets will be on sale February 19, 20, 21 and 22, good returning up to and including February 24. It is hoped that Phoenix people having friends out of the city will advise them of this arrangement. For further information call on E. W. Gillett, General Agent, 44 West Washington St.

